

PETERSBURG.

MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL.—THE CITY COUNCIL met at 10 o'clock this morning for the purpose of transacting business.

At the last regular meeting of the City Council a resolution was adopted instructing the City Treasurer, Mr. Virgilus Johnson, to make out a statement of the city debt, including the date and details of every issue of bonds, the amount negotiated, the bonds retired and cancelled, and the total debt outstanding, to come up to-morrow morning.

Mr. Johnson has been hard at work on this arduous task ever since it was assigned him, and will probably have his report ready to submit to the Council at its session to-morrow.

The City fathers believe in the policy of retrenchment and reform, and are using every effort to reduce the public indebtedness to the bare figure. They feel that they will be better enabled to deal with the debt question when they find out by the official figures exactly how much they are indebted, and what rate of interest is being paid.

Another question up to-morrow incident to the debt will be an ordinance authorizing the issue of \$150,000 in city bonds, for the purpose of retiring that amount of 101-per-cent. river bonds issued in 1871 under the act of the General Assembly.

The Council will also receive the estimates of the different committees for expenditures during the coming fiscal year, and will probably elect the city physicians, the Board of Health, and the directors of the Poor, for the year beginning on July 1st.

The Circuit Court, Judge Weisger presiding, began its session this morning, but adjourned without the transaction of important business.

A May-queen festival for the benefit of Wesley chapel takes place at the Fair Grounds this afternoon.

The feast for the benefit of Ettricks Methodist church netted the sum of \$150, which is to be applied to the enlargement of that place of worship. The amount raised will be about one half of what is required for the purpose.

During the month of May one hundred and thirty-eight cases were disposed of in the Mayor's Court, and the sum of \$108.25 was collected. Under the present dispensation, the penalty of the law has been entirely dispensed with, in which determination the Mayor is to think, very generally sustained by the people.

Eighteen couples were linked during the month in the (alleged) golden bands of wedlock.

It seems to be understood—more the pity—that the Agricultural Society of this city will make no effort this fall to hold its usual annual fair. The grounds and buildings, on which \$3,000 or more were spent last year, are in splendid condition, but the encouragement deemed requisite for the undertaking of an exhibition has not been shown.

A large party of excursionists from Suffolk passed through the city this morning. They were housed at the Richmond Hotel, and left for the city of the future.

The Knights Templar of Appomattox Commandery, No. 26, returned home in good condition, and are loud in their praise of the hospitality of their Richmond brethren.

The friends and relatives of the former Hammond, several of whom reside in this city, attribute his proceedings to mental aberrations and disorders, to which he is said to be subject.

The strawberry crop in this section is so immense this season that the very finest berries are sold in market at from four to eight cents per quart.

The people of Dinwiddie and Brunswick are said to be moving in favor of the narrow-gauge railway, in which determination they were bolstered up by the Legislature.

Seventy-four deeds were entered of record in the clerk's office of this city during the month of May.

The new City Directory of Campbell & Gregory will be given to the printer in a few days.

THE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION AT DANVILLE.

MR. HAYES SAYS A TENURE OF EIGHT OR TEN YEARS DOES NOT CREATE A CLAIM TO THE OFFICE—HE ADVOCATES A CHANGE EVERY FOUR YEARS—THE POSTAL COMMISSION KNOWN TO BE IN BALTIMORE.

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BAPTIST GENERAL ASSOCIATION.

SECOND DAY.

STANDING COMMITTEES APPOINTED.—THE HOME MISSION WORK—NEW FIELD B. AMONG THE INDIANS—DR. JETER'S ANNUAL SERMON—THE MINISTERS' RELIEF FUND—THE TREASURER'S REPORT—MINISTERIAL EDUCATION: THE SUBJECT DISCUSSED BY DR. BROWN, MR. McDONALD OF RICHMOND, AND OTHERS—OTHER MATTERS.

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manifest, invites to the ranks of the military young men of inferior talent, and that assistance is sometimes given to those who use the opportunity to secure an education without any intention of preaching the Gospel. It is shown in reply that the many self-respect of the beneficiary student has been preserved by taking his bond for the amount expended on his education, which he is expected to pay out of his first savings after entering on the full work of the ministry; that the young men educated by this Board, so far from being men of inferior talent, will compare favorably, whether for subsequent usefulness, success in the ministry, or for literary attainments, with a like number of students in any of the colleges of our land; and that as missionaries, pastors, and leaders in denominational enterprises, they have shown that the culture and training received through this Board have fitted them for the highest usefulness in the cause of Christ; and that of the four hundred and five young men educated for the ministry by this Board not more than six of them abandoned their holy calling, and in these cases there were no reasons for believing that any of them received the aid of the Board with the deliberate purpose of securing an education at the expense of the denomination without any intention of preaching the Gospel.

During the past year the Board have supported thirty-three young men who are preparing for the ministry, who for scholarship and promise of usefulness are equal to those of any preceding year.

The receipts for ministerial education for the year were \$4,154.82. The report says: "It should be because of most devout thanksgiving that in a year of great financial depression we should have been enabled to pay the \$500 due on the last year's indebtedness, provide for all the expenses of the current session, and reduce our old debt more than forty per cent." The old debt is now only \$734.70.

DR. A. B. BROWN then took the floor and made one of his inimitable speeches. He hoped that the day would never come when the Baptist denomination would take the position that no man should preach unless he has reached some specified standard of scholarship; but he ably and eloquently insisted that the preacher of the present day should seek the highest culture, and should be helped to the very highest attainments in every branch of learning. He especially considered the objections urged to gratuitous education of ministerial students, and ably answered them.

In replying to the idea that gratuitous education tends to lessen a young man's manhood, he said that if this were so he would like to know what sort of men Lee and Jackson would have made if they had not have had their manhood destroyed by gratuitous education.

Rev. Dr. W. D. Thomas followed in an able analysis and advocacy of the special regulations of the Board.

Rev. Henry McDonald eloquently urged that the great need of the world is pious, earnest, qualified preachers of the Gospel. This was Mr. McDonald's first appearance before the Association, and he seemed to make a fine impression.

The report was adopted.

THE POSTAL COMMISSION. EX ROUTE TO RICHMOND—THE PARTY AT KNOXVILLE.

KNOXVILLE, May 31.—The train from Atlanta to Chattanooga with the Postal Commission aboard made the 138 miles over the Kennesaw route in three hours and thirty-nine minutes. They left Chattanooga this morning, and made the run to this point—113 miles—in two hours and forty-five minutes. After meeting the citizens here they leave for Richmond over the Kennesaw route, where the party will arrive at 6 o'clock to-morrow evening.

A HALF MILLION BURNED UP. NEW YORK, May 31.—A special dispatch from Montreal about the fire there yesterday says the loss will foot up half a million dollars.

LATEST FOREIGN NEWS. ENGLAND. PREPARING FOR CONTINGENCIES.

LONDON, May 31.—In the House of Commons this afternoon Lord Elcho urged the Government to prepare for eventualities of the present war.

MR. GLADSTONE'S POLICY. BIRMINGHAM, May 31.—Mr. Gladstone arrived here to-day and received a great ovation. Business was suspended. At an evening meeting 30,000 people were present. Mr. Gladstone made a speech which consisted of an attack on the Turkish Government, but contained no sustained attack on the Government of England.

THE THEORY OF THE PROPOSITION is that the violent acts of the whites were in pursuance of a general plan to intimidate colored voters, and that several defendants having been connected with bodies of men, some of whom committed these various violent acts, are themselves responsible for all of them; and one of these acts was the killing of David Bush. A general conspiracy was inferred from these general acts, which he charged as a political conspiracy against Bush and the defendants, and they are as responsible as if they severally and jointly had combined for that particular purpose.

The theory of the defence is that a lawful attempt on the part of the whites to arrest a man who was pulled by a white woman caused resistance and excitement on the part of the blacks; that the consequence was the assembling and riotous conduct of the armed negroes, their threatening language and killing of white men; burning of property, and wronging of colored people; and it is necessary for the white people in self-defence, and whatever acts of violence were committed on the part of the whites grew naturally out of a quasi war of races thus inaugurated. The number of witnesses examined on either side has been large, and the progress of the trial, which has occupied the Court continuously since the 15th instant, has excited much feeling. The case is being treated by the prosecution as an effort to visit deserved punishment upon deliberate and systematic violators of the political and personal rights of the blacks; and by the defence as a political conspiracy against Bush and the defendants, and they are as responsible as if they severally and jointly had combined for that particular purpose.

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of New York, and certain French and Swiss banks, and in addition to be made parties defendant in the suit of William Butler Duncan et al against the Mobile and Ohio railroad, Judge Trigg, of the United States District Court, has overruled the motion. He has also denied the motion to restore Morris Ketchum as trustee of the said road.

NEW YORK. THE YOUNG MEN'S CATHOLIC UNION—ELECTION OF OFFICERS, &c.

NEW YORK, May 31.—The delegates to the Young Men's Catholic Union to-day continued their session in the La Salle Institute, and adopted resolutions of thanks to Cardinal McClosky for his kind expression regarding the Union. Resolutions were also adopted requesting delegates to interest their societies in the cause of Catholic education, which was believed to be an absolute necessity—and for the establishment and maintenance of schools to instruct Catholic youths in worldly knowledge, and on the principles of their faith. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: General President, Very Rev. Thomas S. Preston, New York; General Vice-President, Rev. John M. Welsh, Albany; Secretary, Juan A. Pizzini, Richmond; Treasurer, Thomas J. Moore, Brooklyn; Diocesan Vice-Presidents, John J. Keane, New York; Charles C. Hughes, Philadelphia; Rev. A. T. Kane, Hartford; Rev. J. Keane, New York; Rev. T. Washington, New York; Rev. John M. Kelley, Brooklyn; Rev. T. C. Burke, Albany; Rev. Patrick Cronin, Buffalo; George Hara, Chicago; A. A. Rothemick, Providence; F. J. Ryan, Richmond; and Theo. M. McHugh, Boston.

FAILURE ANNOUNCED. NEW YORK, May 31.—The failure of William B. Clarke is announced. Mr. Clarke was formerly president of the stock exchange.

AWARD OF GOLD. NEW YORK, May 31.—The \$1,000,000 Government gold was awarded to-day at 106.25.

MARYLAND. DRUG-STORE BURNED IN BALTIMORE. BALTIMORE, May 31.—W. H. Brown Brothers' drug store, No. 301 Sharp street, was burned to-day. Loss, \$90,000.

CONNECTICUT. DEATH FROM HYDROPHOBIA. HARTFORD, CONN., May 31.—Monsieur Valvargen, an instructor of French, who had been bitten by a dog on April 30, died this morning of hydrophobia.

CALIFORNIA. AID FOR THE WRECKED PASSENGERS OF THE CITY OF SAN FRANCISCO. SAN DIEGO, May 31.—The officers and crew of the steamer San Antonio, a Mexican, have contributed five hundred dollars cash to the necessities of the wrecked people from the steamer City of San Francisco. They lost from \$3,000 to \$10,000 each. The theory is that the vessel was cut open by an upheaval from the recent earthquake. The vessel was in the usual course.

COLORADO. ONE OF BEN'S "STORIES." PUEBLO, COLORADO, May 31.—In the press telegrams of to-day there appears a statement made by General B. F. Butler to the effect that he had been ordered to protect the rights of the colored people in Colorado. In the records of Pueblo county appears a warranty-deed from William Craig to Benjamin F. Butler for seventy-one thousand six hundred and thirty-eight acres of land. The deed is dated April 20, 1877, and there is no evidence to show that it is not bona fide. The consideration was \$30,000.

FATAL EXPLOSION IN SILVER ORE TUNNEL. DENVER, CO., May 31.—This morning when the day force went to work in the Silver Ore tunnel, near the Terrible mine at Georgetown, they found the mangled corpses of John Gregory, Harry Walters, and a companion named Peck, all of whom had been murdered and killed by an explosion of powder. There is no survivor to account for the cause.

SITTING BULL'S DEFEAT DENIED. CHICAGO, May 31.—Lieutenant Clark telegraphs from the Red Cloud Agency that after a full investigation he considers the reported defeat of the Indians as absolutely false. Sitting Bull could not have been in the vicinity of the reported fight.

CANADA. A HALF MILLION BURNED UP. NEW YORK, May 31.—A special dispatch from Montreal about the fire there yesterday says the loss will foot up half a million dollars.

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against the Deputy Mayor of Belmont for the same reason.

THE EDITOR AND MANAGER OF THE MARSHALLS have been sentenced to three months imprisonment and a fine of 4,000 francs for insulting President MacMahon. A fresh writ of habeas corpus will be instituted against the Marshalls.

ROMA. THE CAMPAIGN IN THE EAST. THE CAMPAIGN IN THE EAST. THE CAMPAIGN IN THE EAST.

LONDON, May 31.—A special dispatch from Ploesti to the News says: Though the rains have ceased the Danube is so high, owing to the melting of the snow in the mountains near its source, that an inundation is feared near Aleniza, which would oblige the Russians to remove their batteries there.

SOME BASH-BAZOOKS crossed the Danube between the Bulgarians and the Russians. They captured Rumanian mules and, out of the calves of their legs.

A special dispatch from Paris to the Times says: The Russian standard is expected at Alexandria on the 4th of June to carry the Egyptian transports.

ALL QUIET AT KARS. ERZERUM, May 29.—All is quiet at Kars. Heavy rains continue, preventing operations.

ARMY AGAIN REPORTED CAPTURED BY THE OTTOMAN TROOPS. LONDON, May 31.—On the Stock Exchange there have been eight failures of "bears," speculators announced, during the pending settlement.

THE TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTER has telegraphed the Porte's representatives abroad as follows: Ardashan, which was recently occupied by the Russians, has been recaptured by the Ottoman troops.

THE RECAPTURE OF ARDASHAN DOUBTED. ST. PETERSBURG, May 31.—The Turkish Government's announcement of the recapture of Ardashan is regarded here as untrue, because telegrams from Tiflis dated to-day mention no such event.

ARMY AGAIN REPORTED CAPTURED BY THE OTTOMAN TROOPS. LONDON, May 31.—A Reuters Constantinople dispatch, dated Thursday evening, says: The Porte has not yet received official confirmation of the recapture of Ardashan from the general commanders in the field.

RUSSIAN SUCCESS—SANDALBA HEIGHTS CAPTURED. ST. PETERSBURG, May 31.—An official dispatch from the army of the Caucasus, dated May 29th, says: On Monday General Oklobshin, commanding the operations against Batoum, ordered his advance guard to the left bank of the Kentschik, to carry the Sandalba Heights, on the left of the Turkish line. The enterprise was accomplished. Meantime a detachment ascended the Kentschik, and after great difficulty established a position about four miles from Batoum, thus cutting off the communication of the Turkish army with the Rabeli district. The Russian loss in both enterprises was four killed and thirty wounded.

A WAR-MEETING AT ATHENS. LONDON, May 31.—The Times's Paris special says: Delegates from the Greek provinces of Turkey held a meeting at Athens last night in favor of the Allies on the eastern front. The meeting was called on to distribute arms to those provinces.

MARINE INTELLIGENCE. MINIATURE ALMANAC—JUNE 1, 1877.

PORT OF RICHMOND, MAY 31, 1877. ARRIVED.

Steamship Wyanoke, Conch. New York, merchandise and passengers, G. W. Allen & Co. agents.

From Philadelphia May 24th, schooner H. Simmonds, Godfrey.

From Philadelphia May 25th, bark Concordia (Ger.), Escheldt.

From Philadelphia May 28th, schooner E. C. Knight, Jr., Blake.

FINANCIAL.

RICHMOND STOCK EXCHANGE.

THURSDAY, May 31, 1877. RAILROADS.—Virginia common, 7 1/2 bid; 7 1/4 asked; Virginia consols, 8 1/2 bid; 8 1/4 asked; Virginia 4 1/2-revenue coupon, 8 1/2 bid; 8 1/4 asked; Norfolk city water, 8 1/4 bid; 8 1/2 asked; Norfolk city water, 8 1/4 bid; 8 1/2 asked; Manchester 8 1/4, 8 1/4 asked; Manchester 8 1/4, 8 1/4 asked.

RAILROAD BONDS.—Virginia Central Railroad first mortgage, 8 1/4, 8 1/4 bid; 8 1/2 asked; Virginia and Tennessee Railroad second mortgage, 8 1/4, 8 1/4 bid; 8 1/2 asked; Potomac and Annapolis Railroad second mortgage, 8 1/4, 8 1/4 bid; 8 1/2 asked; Potomac and Annapolis Railroad second mortgage, 8 1/4, 8 1/4 bid; 8 1/2 asked.

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RAILROAD BONDS.—Virginia Central Railroad first mortgage, 8 1/4, 8 1/4 bid; 8 1/2 asked; Virginia and Tennessee Railroad second mortgage, 8 1/4, 8 1/4 bid; 8 1/2 asked; Potomac and Annapolis Railroad second mortgage, 8 1/4, 8 1/4 bid; 8 1/2 asked; Potomac and Annapolis Railroad second mortgage, 8 1/4, 8 1/4 bid; 8 1/2 asked.

RAILROAD BONDS.—Virginia Central Railroad first mortgage, 8 1/4, 8 1/4 bid; 8 1/2 asked; Virginia and Tennessee Railroad second mortgage, 8 1/4, 8 1/4 bid; 8 1/2 asked; Potomac and Annapolis Railroad second mortgage, 8 1/4,